

The Manchester Journal.

D. E. SIMMONS, Editor & Proprietor.

THURSDAY, DEC. 4, 1873.

The French steamer, Ville De Davis from New York to Havre, collided with the English vessel Lock Ears, in mid ocean, and almost immediately sank, 226 lives being lost and only 87 rescued, of whom 25 were passengers. Mr. H. H. Howe.

A GOLDEN WEDDING.

How rare a thing it is! How few, comparatively speaking, unite in the holy bonds of wedlock live to enjoy the fiftieth anniversary. When such an event happens, and the union has been a true and happy marriage, "they twain becoming more and more one flesh," now natural in some way to celebrate it—to renew the pledge of fond and ripe affection—gather in the friends to rejoice with the loved ones.

A marked case of this sort has occurred in this town in the prolonged and useful life of Col. Hirson S. Walker and wife. The fiftieth anniversary of their marriage occurred last Saturday, the 29th ult.

Without much formality, a party of olden friends gathered at their home, Saturday afternoon, and found them with open doors and arms in full waiting. They looked glad and much younger than usual. The past with its changes, its joys and its sorrows was talked over. All that knew them were ready to testify to what their own quiet and cheerful ways did manifest, that they had been true to each other, and would be to the end. After a full and rich repast had been partaken of and the older ones of the party were about looking homewards a short religious service was desired, and who could more fittingly and appropriately lead in this than their old Pastor, Rev. James Anderson, a life-long friend. He without any preparation for such a service, very happily expressed his congratulations, with the rest, to the happy pair; referred to their long and mutual friendships, to the changes sad and joyful in the family circle, to the Christian hope they entertained of another and more blessed life beyond the vicissitudes of this. He then offered prayer for them and their children, and grand children, that they might all so live as to meet in Heaven. After which Dr. Wickham read a few lines of poetry, prepared for a similar occasion, very appropriate and beautiful they were. A few retired, others remained for the evening, and were joined by the younger and related members of the family, and these very pleasantly whiled away the time, in mutual congratulations, and olden music, and earnest wishes that Col. Walker and lady might, notwithstanding their bodily infirmities, live on to the Diamond season of their nuptial joys. At all events that their last days might in true enjoyment and usefulness be their best days.

SOLDIERS' RECONCILY.

At a soldiers meeting, held in Fernandina, Fla., some time since, a committee was chosen to present to the surviving soldiers of both armies in the late war between the United States, a plan for a reunion on the anniversary of the birthday of the illustrious Father of his Country. General Finley, Judge Archibald, Col. McDonnell and Capt. Durkee were the Jacksonville members of that committee. In response to a call of these gentlemen a soldiers meeting was held in the Circuit Court room, Jacksonville, on Tuesday evening, 4th November.

Judge Archibald was made Chairman, and Dr. Tucker Secretary. The Chairman explained the purpose of the meeting in a few earnest and thoughtful words.

General Finley spoke feelingly and eloquently of the design for a general movement among the soldiers of the late war to promote good feeling, restore the common memories and traditions that united the North and the South in other days, and bring back that glorious time when the states were all daughters in one common sisterhood. He had longed and hoped for such a movement for years. His heart was in and with it. That he had been a soldier indeed, he could appeal to the record and to the remembrance of the brave men who had stood shoulder to shoulder with him in battle and he would bid the movement God Speed. General Finley spoke in a fine, thrilling style of the exceeding fitness of the birthday of Washington, as the soldiers reunion; for the name and the fame of the great American belonged to us all.

Major Russell had also been a soldier, and in a few brief, energetic, but many and eloquent words he spoke, encouraged the purpose of the meeting and hoped and believed it would go far towards re-Americanizing our people—towards the restoration of a truly catholic American patriotism that should know no sections, but proudly and firmly claim as its own the Republic of Washington and Jackson. To spur and despoil those who had fatten'd by the war; to scorn the horde of changelings, "needy, needy and greedy," who had never been soldiers, but who rushed into the South after the war, seeking place and office, and also too often finding them; to bring together, on the broad ground of common forbearance, the true men of the armies who had risked their lives and shed their blood—these things Major Russell wanted.

DEFACALATION IN VERMONT.

I find in an old volume, belonging to a member of Unity Lodge No. 9, at Lebanon Springs, N. Y., the following:

"A petition from several brethren, dated Cornish, often claimed by Vermont, but now in New Hampshire, was read in the Massachusetts Grand Lodge, Nov. 8th, A. L. 5781, praying for the establishment of a lodge in that place, whereupon voted, that a charter be issued accordingly. This lodge met eleven times at Gorham, but when that town was claimed by New Hampshire, the lodge removed to Windsor, Vermont, on the opposite side of Connecticut river, and took the name of Vermont Lodge, No. 1."

Besides this is the first Lodge established in Vermont. In 1802 Vermont Lodge had forty-five members, at which time the first officers were Isaac Green, W. M.; Alpheus Cady, S. W.; — Parkhurst, J. W.; Abel Johnson, Treasurer; Nathaniel Hall, Secy. A Lodge existing at that time at Bennington with Andrew Selden as Master was No. 6.

SUGGEMENT WITHOUT WAR.

The difficulty with Spain in regard to the Virginians will be settled without war, provided Spain can assert her power over the Cubans sufficiently to carry out the agreement she has signed. The Virginians together with the survivors are to be given up to the United States, to be tried and punished if they have been guilty of violating the neutrality laws. Spain is to make reparations for damages done and also to the friends of those who were put to death the amount to be fixed by future arbitration. The country will generally be better pleased with this result than a vindication by war in which both nations would have been badly punished, to say the least.

DEFACALATION IN VERMONT.

Malfacalation in office and defacalations have never been of frequent occurrence in Vermont, and the people of the state will be pained to learn that A. J. Crane of Burlington, Collector of Internal Revenue for the consolidated District of Vermont, has proved a defacalator to the amount of \$17,600. Mr. Crane lays the blame on his former deputy, Mr. E. R. Jewett, now of Chicago, who deities it. Both men have heretofore stood high in the estimation of the people of their acquaintance. Jewett has been also sued, for \$4,000, by Mr. Baxter, the predecessor of Mr. Crane.

for defacalation while deputy for Baxter. We presume the books will show who has had the money. Mr. Crane's bondsmen are Messrs. J. B. Platt, Geo. C. Bigelow, Wm. G. Shaw, Geo. F. Edmunds and Jed P. Clark, who will make good any deficiency. Mr. Crane has surrendered his interest in the American House, and it has gone into the hands of its former proprietor, Mr. H. H. Howe.

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Congress assembled on Monday, and the House organized by the election of Blaine Speaker. The Presidents Message was not read until Tuesday and the committees will not be chosen and the House is in good working order until the close of the week.

It is understood that there will be a severe pressure brought to bear upon the present Congress by Southern and Western members, for an increase of currency, on the ground that there is not currency enough, in ordinary times, to do the constantly increasing business of the country. Those opposed to the plan will claim that we ought to reach a specific basis first and then not increase it to such an extent that it will not keep there, which would seem sound doctrine.

A great many people living in the country, who take their local paper and read it, are beginning to inquire what Congress will do about the clause in the postal laws which requires them to pay postage on their country paper.

Were it not for this unfortunate provision in the new postal code they might not have said quite as much about the back pay business.

An early attempt will be made to repeal the "salary grab" law, but the Democrats, who have just chosen Fernando Wood for their leader and be a noted supporter of the salary grab, do not show much indication of going back on it, and there will be enough more to keep the thing where it is until they go for another "raise." It would be very "convenient" for some of their constituents to be able to fix their own salaries.

Boss Tweed has been taken to Blackwell's Island, washed, had his hair cut and a new coat of "many colors" and put at the steady and honorable occupation of breaking stones. Twelve years of this sort of work may have a good effect on him.

Thanksgiving day was celebrated in the bowels of the Hoosac mountain by breaking down the middle wall of partition, the last obstacle to the passage of the mountain, and now the tunnel, nearly five miles in length, is done "except finishing." It is a great triumph of skill and perseverance, and may pay for the cost some time before the millennium.

FREEHOLDERS IN VERMONT.

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Col. Holland spoke characteristically in his negro, effective, but wise and eloquent way. He too despised those who would cast discredit and ridicule on this soldiers meeting. He wanted all the brave men who had gathered in battle for which they had thought just and true, to gather in peace and brotherhood, now that the smoke of the strife was cleared away. He hoped the ball set in motion at Fernandina would roll on and on, over Florida, the South, the North, the Republic, until it should have gathered to itself all that is truly American and patriotic, he should not care for malcontents. The soldiers were a mighty power yet. Let the eagle hover above, and the owls and bats would hide in their holes.

Superintendent Fairbank has been elected Superintendent of the Maine Normal School, but has not yet accepted the position.

Over twenty-six tons of poultry were shipped from West Randolph on Wednesday and Thursday of last week, besides two or three car loads of other produce.

Ex State Senator Horrobin, of Bennington, has just brought from Paris the piano, an attachment for a piano, playing-operators and other pieces, by simply turning a crank.

On the afternoon of the 10th inst., Nathan Wynn, of Wallingford, a carpenter, at work on a barn in Danby, was blown off the staging by a severe gust of wind, and fell fifteen feet, striking on his back, as is supposed. He has since died from his injuries.

Diphtheria of the most virulent type has appeared in Rutland county. Of seven cases in three families in Castleton, five proved fatal, some within a very short time apart.

A gentleman who has recently inspected the judges of state in Fairhaven reports that there is slate enough in that town to keep a thousand men engaged a hundred years in quarrying.

Batchelder & Sons of Wallingford have been awarded the first premium at the Vienna Exposition, on their hay and manure forks.

Mr. Woodcock is prosecuting the work vigorously at his gold mines in Plymouth, and has recently taken a specimen, only a small portion of a lot, worth nearly seven dollars for the winter, but will open again in the spring.

The St. Johnsbury *Caledonian* gives the following description of a piece of mechanism which it says is more ingenious than useful: We have in our office a most ingenious specimen of mechanism, and one better illustrating the long patience of the maker than anything else we remember to have seen. The article referred to is a glass bottle, inside of which is a round table very nearly filling the diameter of the bottle. On the table is a cask made of staves, with brass hoops, and a head in each end. In the nose of the bottle is a wooden stopper, nearly filling up the space, and this is keyed in on the inside and pinned. The table and miniature barrel had to be set up inside the bottle and glued together. How all this was done is a wonder to us which we cannot explain, but we can show the bottle.

Miss Harriet Dow, of Wallingford, is soon to graduate from a medical college in New York city, after which she will take the tour of Europe.

On motion of Col. Bisbee,

Resolved, That this meeting approves and confirms the action of the one held in Fernandina, and accepts the committee there chosen as a general representative of the soldiers in Florida, and remits to that committee the management of the proposed re-union.

Judge Archibald said he would prefer to consider the selection of committee men, and was at his request, allowed to postpone the appointments until another meeting.

On motion of Col. Holland,

Resolved, That the Secretary furnish the papers of Jacksonville with reports of the proceedings of this meeting.

Then, amidst much and real, manifested feeling, and an earnest desire for the success of its noble and dignified and benevolent purpose, the meeting adjourned, subject to Judge Archibald's call.

S. M. TROKE, M. D., Secretary.

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To those who for the last ten years have seen "this thing coming" and are likely to experience a like or greater shock on hand we say call and satisfy yourselves that

WE DO AND WILL SEND GOODS AT THE VERY LOWEST PRICES.

are constantly receiving fresh additions to their already very large and attractive stock of Goods which they are selling very